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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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sans it would not take very long until the Baltic partisan groups were finally extinguished. S knew of a revolt of prisoners in STAATSGEFAENGNIS #3 (state prison #3) in RIGA, in 1950. S learned about the revolt from wounded prisoners who had been transferred to S's prison. They told S that the prisoners had managed to open most of the cells, to overpower the guards whom they took as hostages, and to put up barricades. After a desperate struggle of 3 days, the militia overcame the prisoners. 10 prisoners were said to have escaped at this revolt.

The Latvians whom S met in RIGA prison told S that the Latvians who had been deported by the Russians, now lived mainly in the area of KRASNOYARSK (5602N/9248E). Lithuanians and Estonians whom S met in his prison gave only vague info on deportations and had no idea of the destination of deportees. In KARAGANDA S met many Volga-Germans who were not allowed to leave a certain area, an area of 30 km radius for most of them, but only the town area for some. These Volga-Germans told S that other Volga-Germans now lived in another unspecified area. The political attitude of these Volga-Germans was very indifferent and, from S's experience, they could not be considered very reliable. Some supported the Soviet Regime, most tried to make the impression of loyal citizens and only few of them opposed the communist regime. In MARAGANDA, S also met the deported Chechens. They told S that they awoke one morning in their native area when all their villages had been surrounded by Russianguards. Without delay they were loaded into trains and taken right to the KARAGANDA region where they lived as free civilians. Though they were free, they hated the Soviet Regime since they suffered more than usual from homesickness. sian civilians in SVERDLOVSK told S that they had seen many trains with Jewish deportees passing thru. Those trains were not heavily guarded and the Jews were allowed to leave the train to go to the station restaurant and to talk with Russian civilians. The civilians reported to S that the Jews said they were on the way to Jewish republic that was to be established somewhere near the Chinese border. Fellow PWs in one of S's camps, S did not remember which, who had been in a place called MAISKA (phonetic spelling of a place not listed on available maps) near ORSK (5110N '5834E), told S that they had seen a large group of Austrian Jewish emigrants living there under fair living conditions. The Ukrainian guard officer SARIPOV, a 42 year old friendly and honest man, 1st Lt of the army in S's PW camp in SVERDLOVSK, told S that 50,000 Jewish emigrants had lived freely in MOSKVA after the war, until the government suspected that there might be agents among them. Then they were deported to Siberia, S did not know where and when. The Soviet army officers whom S met in the RIGA prison told him that the members of the VLASSOV army and men who had served with the German army during WW II were imprisoned as political convicts in the region of the Kolima mountains.

E. FORCED LABOR CAMPS:

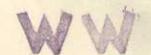
23. S stayed in the following prison and forced labor camps: In RIGA, ZENTRALGEFAENGNIS 1 (central prison # 1), Apr 49-May 50, number of inmates unkn, Russians, Latvians, Germans, Spaniards, etc., no work, active as prison when S left.

Convicts'Camp # 6110 in BOROVICHI, May 50-Dec 51, number of inmates not recalled Germans, political and PW criminal, constr work on a paper mill, closed when S left.

Convicts'Camp # 476/7 near SVERDLOVSK, number of inmates unkn, Dec 51-Feb 52, German political and PW criminal convicts, constr work on housing projects, camp was closed when S left.

Convicts' Camp # 476/7 in MAYKA, Feb 52-Dec 53, 1,000 inmates, all German, political and criminal PW convicts and German civilians, constr work on a hospital, 25 percent of camp inmates released with S.

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24. S had second hand info about two US Army Sgts. A Latvian told S in RIGA prison in Jun or Jul 49 that he had met these two Sgts in a convicts camp in the region of the KOLIMA Mountains. The only details which S could get from the Latvian were that the 2 Sgts had been stationed near the zonal border and were caught on the Soviet side of the border when visiting girl friends. Latvian also claimed that French and British military personnel was kept in those camps, but no details could be obtained. S did not getany names of physical description of the prisoners. In Jul 49, S had a fellow prisoner in his cell for a couple of days who claimed to be a non-Soviet national who had worked as an agent for a US agency. That prisoner gave his name as CIRON, but stated that that name was not his real name. He was 30-35 years old, 174 cm tall, smart, healthy, had dark brown hair, brown eyes, and two gold teeth at the upper right jaw. He never gave details about his nationality or his duties as a agent. He claimed that the Russians had caught him when he came down on Russian territory by parachute. About his previous career CIRON only stated that he had been in US captivity somewhere in Northern France, had then followed a Russian proclamation which guaranteed a free life to PWs who would go to the Baltic countries. With a transport of such PWs he had passed thru Germany where he left the unguarded train. CIRON spoke poor Latvian, poor Russian, poor German and poor English. S never heard him master any of these languages like his native tongue. As second hand info S learned from the 3 Soviet officers imprisoned in RIGA with him that the Emperor of Manchuria, PYU, was imprisoned in BUDYIRKA Prison in MOSKVA. They said that he had a large cell and good treatment. Fellow convicts in BOROVICHI told S that they had met 200-300 German youths in a forest who had signed a contract to work in the USSR but who were kept there against their will after their contract had expired. In S's camp in MAYKA, therewere two German civilian scientists who had been sent there because they refused to prolong their contracts for work in the USSR. They were:

Dr. DELFENTHAL, approx 40 years old, Silesian, mathematician, had signed a 2 years' contract to work in MOSKVA on probability calculations for military purposes. S did not learn details on these calculations, but Dr. DELFENTHAL indicated that they concerned the atmosphere, the stratosphere and that they involved astronomy. He said that he had had a good life in MOSKVA, a car, a secretary and 5,000 Rubles monthly salary. He had been awarded a LENIN Diploma at the end of the 2 years' contract and asked to stay at his working place. When he demanded to be repatriated he was sent to a convicts' camp. The only reason which the guards gave him, was that he had been imprisoned to make him forget about his work. Dr. D was a member of the German HERRENHUTER BRUDERGEmeinde, a religious group.

The second German scientist was Dr. Walter GRIEP, age unkn, an aircraft engineer of the German HEINKEL plant. He, too, had a 2 years' contract and refused to prolong it. He had been imprisoned in BUDYIRKA Prison in MOSKVA, before he was sent to the convicts' camp. In that prison he had been kept in a so called STEHWASSERZELLE, a cell with just room enough to stand in it, in which intermittently hot and cold water rose up to his chin, for 8 consecutive days and nights. This was done to press him to prolong his contract.

25. In RIGA prison, fellow convicts told S that they had been sent to a convicts' camp in VORKUTA (6622N/7008E) but that the camp had been closed before they came there in 49. So they had been sent back to RIGA. There had been rumors that camps in the VORKUTA area had been closed after some US activities in the polar region. No details could be obtained about these activities. Between 1950 and 53, many German PW convicts who had formerly been in convicts camps together with Russians were transferred to such camps with german inmates only. In Dec 51, the convicts' camp # 6110 in BOROVICHI, was

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closed after it had been in existance for 7 months. It was said among convicts that about that time a great number of convicts' camps in the W of the USSR were closed. Russian guards told S that they had orders to treat German PW convicts better than other convicts. S noticed this change himself after late 49, when German convicts got additional food and were often interrogated by MVD officers who asked them whether they were insulted or ostracized by non-German fellow convicts. Criminal and political prisoners were always kept separately during the time when S was in prison or convicts' camps, i.e., after Apr 49. The only exception was for German PW convicts of which political and criminal prisoners were kept in the same cells or camps. Criminal and political convicts usually were glad to be separated since political prisoners had been tyrannized by the criminals before. Still both groups sometimes tried to intercommunicate to exchange experiences about interrogators and other prison news. There were mainly two system of communication between prisoners. The one was an acoustic system with knocking symbols, the second a visual system in which letters were represented by finger signs. The knocking system was mainly applied between adjoining cells by knocking at the wall or within a building by knocking at the central heating radiators. S was surprised at the great number of Russian convicts who were acquainted to the international Morse code. Besides this code there was a simplified code which consisted of only 25 symbols. S knew this code only for Latin letters but it existed also for cyrillic writing. The system was explained by a square of letters which S found engraved in the walls of all prison cells in which he was interned. It looked as follows:

	1	2	3	4	5
1_	A	В	C	D	E
2	F	G	H	I	K
. 3	L	M	N	0	P
4_	Q	R	S	T	U
5	V	W	Х	Y	Z

The top row showed the number of knocks to be knocked first, the left row the accord group of knocks. Accordingly the symbol for S would be: understood the letter. 6 knocks after a word, quickly given by the reciever, meant that he understood the word. Knocking more than 6 times meant that the receiver had not understood and asked for a repeat. The end of any message and any danger that forced the sender to interrupt his message was indicated by shoving a solid object in circles along the wall. Prisoners mostly used their drinking cups for this purpose which they also used for listening to faint knocks which were amplified by the cup. S found this knocking system commonly known to convicts of any nationality he met in RIGA prison and in the convicts camps. It was least known to German convicts. Between different bldgs or over distances which made speaking and hearing impossible, a visual system was applied which represented a finger language which was commonly known to convicts. S successfully applied it in all his convicts camps, mainly at the working places to communicate with Russian convicts also employed there. For the symbols of this finger language ref is made to Incl 2, this Report, a Memory Sketch of Finger Symbols.

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26. Except for the frequent ill-treatment at interrogations as S experienced it himself, S did not experience any large scale atrocities. The Latvian nationalist SILES (ref sub-para 19) told S that 400 prisoners had been shot in Central Prison # 1 in RIGA, i.e., the prison in which S was interned, when the Germans took RICA in WW II. The Russian MVD ordered this slaughter since they could not transport the prisoners to the interior of the country fast enough. To prevent a repeat of such a slaughter, SILES had organized a protective service within the cell. Each prisoner had his specific duties for such a case, some were supposed to screen the cell entrance with mattresses and tables while others had to take care of water jugs with which they should prevent a fire. From his experience as a prisoner in WW II, SILES judged that this protective service might be effective enough in a case of emergency since the guards would have no time to lose. SILES also pretended to know that occasional ly prisoners had been killed by poisoned food. For this reason the prisoners of his cell took the duty in turn to test all food first, while the other prisoners waited for about an hour and ate only when the one who had tested the food remained unharmed.

F. VOICE OF AMERICA:

33. In S's opinion only top communists or radio engineers might have access to shortwave receivers. None of the individuals who S met ever had access to such a receiver and even the radio sets centrally installed in the offices of Party functionaries to serve the common loudspeaker relay system had no shortwave range.

APPROVED:

D. M. ALLSION

Colonel, United States Air Force

Commander

for EDWARD E. LUNDAK Lt Col., USAF Commander 7059th AISS

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